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Itani, FRED YONEJI

1959

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF THE PASSPORT OFFICE
OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT

In re: FRED YONEJI ITANI,)
Appellant.)
-----)

APPEAL FROM CERTIFICATE OF LOSS OF UNITED STATES NATIONALITY,
MOTION TO REOPEN AND RECONSIDER APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES
PASSPORT, AND FOR ISSUANCE OF UNITED STATES PASSPORT

Fred Yoneji Itani of 8 Ueno, Shimizu, Uozumi, Akashi City,
Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, born in San Francisco, California, on
April 27, 1920, hereby appeals from the "Certificate Of The Loss
Of The Nationality Of The United States" issued to him under date
of March 7, 1949, by William S. Magistretti, Vice-Consul of the
United States of America, at Yokohama, Japan, which was approved
by the Department of State on April 21, 1949, and from the denial
of the issuance to him of a United States passport for which he
had applied and which said denial was based upon a purported
expatriation under the provisions of Section 401(c) of Chapter IV
of the Nationality Act of 1940 by reason of his induction into
and service in the Japanese Army from November 1, 1943, to
December 28, 1945. The appellant also moves to reopen said cause
and have the same reconsidered and moves that thereupon a United
States passport issue to him as a United States citizen.

Attached hereto as exhibits and made a part hereof, as addi-
tional evidence to be considered in connection with this appeal
and in support of said motion are the following documents, viz:

- (1) Statement of the Appellant dated November 2, 1959.
- (2) Statement of Masaichi Nitta dated January 10, 1959.
- (3) Statement of Mrs. Shige Sudo dated March 15, 1959,
with translation by Nario Uno.

1 (4) Statement of Kazuo Murai dated March 16, 1959,
2 with translation by Nario Uno.

3 (5) Statement of Kazuo Den dated April 30, 1959,
4 with translation by Nario Uno.

5 (6) Statement of Shigetaka Fujiyoshi dated July 7, 1959,
6 with translation by Nario Uno.

7 (7) Statement of Shinichi Inoue dated January 19, 1959,
8 with translation by Nario Uno.

9 (8) Statement of Noboru Hada dated March 23, 1959.

10 And also the following letters of recommendation, from the
11 following named persons, viz:

12 (9) Ralph D. Claxton, Chief CCD dated 29 September 1958.

13 (10) H.G. Lipson, Ind. Prop. Officer, DAFC, dated 28 Sept.1958.

14 (11) Alexis M. Neel, Capt. USAF, dated 10 March 1958.

15 (12) Joseph J. Munson, DAFC, dated 20 March, 1959.

16 (13) Austin B. Castellano, Major, USAF, dated 5 January 1959.

17 (14) Nile Hale, Property Administrator, USAF, dated 29 May 1957.

18 (15) Robert R. Pavelka, Chief, Ind. Prop. Div., DAFC, dated
19 5 May 1959.

20 (16) William P. Tierney, Chief, Cost Anal. Branch, dated
21 2 October 1958.

22 (17) Wallace C. Lohse, Capt., USAF, dated 23 December 1958.

23 (18) Ronald W. Helmick, Major, USAF, dated 4 May 1959.

24 Appellant and his counsel request that if any of the documents
25 heretofore submitted as evidence on appellant's application for a
26 United States passport or the affidavits herewith submitted as
27 evidence to be considered on this appeal and motion to reopen and
28 reconsider appellant's application for a United States passport for
29 any reason be deemed insufficient in form or in substance as to
30 cause an unfavorable decision to be rendered thereon the appellant
31 requests an opportunity to have such deficiency corrected.

32 The application to reopen the cause and for reconsideration
of the cause on its merits, for cancellation of the aforesaid
Certificate Of Loss Of Nationality and for the issuance to appellant
of a United States passport as a citizen of the United States are

1 made in view of the evidence heretofore and now submitted in this
2 cause and also in the light of the applicable rules announced in
3 the recent United States Supreme Court decisions of Perez v.
4 Brownell, 78 S.Ct. 568, and Nishikawa v. Dulles, 78 S.Ct. 612,
5 both decided on March 31, 1958.

6 The appellant was born in San Francisco, California, on
7 April 27, 1920. By reason of the organic law of Japan then in
8 effect he was deemed to be a Japanese national and, in consequence,
9 under our law, was deemed to possess dual nationality. At the
10 age of 12 years he was taken by his parents to Japan for a visit
11 which was necessitated by reason of the ill health of his mother.
12 Unfortunately, his parents kept him there and placed him in
13 school. In 1939 he informed the U.S. Consulate at Osaka of his
14 intention to return to the United States upon the completion of
15 his schooling to enter the University of California at Berkeley,
16 California. However, he had no opportunity to return to the U.S.
17 prior to the advent of the war or during it. His application for
18 a U.S. passport was denied on March 7, 1948, by reason of his
19 service in the Japanese Army into which he had been conscripted.

20 In the spring of 1943 while he was attending the Yokohama
21 College he was ordered to report for a physical examination for
22 ultimate conscription purposes. He was admonished to obey that
23 order. Nevertheless, he sought to evade compliance with the
24 order by requesting permission to be advanced to a university
25 which request summarily was denied and accompanied by an admonition
26 that it had been an unpatriotic request. Thereafter he sought and
27 obtained private employment as an engineer at the Nakajima Air-
28 craft Co., in Koizumi, in the hope that such civilian employment
29 might enable him to avoid conscription. This also proved a futile
30 act on his part. He was warned by Toyokazu Urita, the civilian
31 officer in charge of military affairs in his village, and also by
32 his parents that efforts to avoid conscription would result in

1 punishment. At conscription time he requested a postponement of
2 induction and presented a civilian M.D.'s certificate of illness
3 but his request was denied. On November 1, 1943, he was con-
4 scripted into the Japanese Army against his will. His submission
5 to the physical examination and his induction into that army
6 were the direct and proximate result of duress exerted upon him
7 during the war when Japan was in the grip of its military authori-
8 ties. Fear of punishment compelled him to submit to induction
9 and, consequently, his induction and service were wholly involun-
10 tary and did not expatriate him under the provisions of Section
11 401(c) of the Nationality Act of 1940.

12 In the Perez case the Supreme Court decided that "Congress
13 can attach loss of citizenship only as a consequence of conduct
14 engaged in voluntarily", citing MacKenzie v. Hare, 239 U.S. 299,
15 311-312.

16 In the Perez decision the Supreme Court declared:

17 "Whatever divergence of view there may be as to what
18 conduct may, consistent with the Constitution, be said
19 to result in loss of nationality, cf. Perez v. Brownell,
20 78 S.Ct. 568, it is settled that no conduct results in
expatriation unless the conduct is engaged in voluntarily.
21 Mandoli v. Acheson, 344 U.S. 133, 73 S.Ct. 135, 97 L.Ed.
22 143."

23 In the Nishikawa decision the Supreme Court decided that in
24 all expatriation cases under Section 401 of the Nationality Act
25 of 1940 the burden of proof rests upon the government to prove
26 expatriation by "clear, convincing and unequivocal" evidence, in
27 the following language:

28 "In Gonzales v. Landon, 350, U.S. 920, 76 S.Ct. 210, 100
29 L.Ed. 806, we held the rule as to burden of proof in
30 denaturalization cases applied to expatriation cases
31 under Section 401(j) of the Nationality Act of 1940.
32 We now conclude that the same rule should govern cases
under all the subsections of Section 401." (underscoring
supplied.)

We submit that the evidence is conclusive that the appellant's
induction into the Japanese Army was wholly involuntary and did
not as a matter of law or as a matter of fact constitute an

1 expatriating act on his part and that appellant's cause should
2 be reviewed in the light of the Perez and Nishikawa decisions and
3 be decided in his favor.

4 Wherefore, appellant requests that his motion to reopen the
5 cause and for reconsideration thereof be granted and that his
6 appeal be sustained and that a United States passport issue to
7 him.

8 Dated: November 19, 1959.

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10
11 Wayne M. Collins
12 1300 Mills Tower
13 San Francisco 4, California
Garfield 1-5827

14 Attorney for Appellant Fred Yoneji Itani
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C O P Y

STATEMENT RELATED TO MR. YONEJI ITANI

March 23rd, 1959

Mr. Yoneji Itani and I became friends since April 1945, when I was sent to the Hayabusa 17338 Maintenance Company (167th Independent Maintenance Company, Japanese Army in North China. We lived in the same room and were both American born with the American ideology (I was born in New York City) and in the similar status by involuntarily being put into the Japanese Army.

Mr. Itani had a non-combat rating as a Maintenance Engineer (Japanese: Gijitsu-bu), and he constantly resented and opposed to the Commander, Capt. Keizo Ueno and never accepted any military type duties. He was quite known because he frequently made open statements that he hated the military and wanted to go home. I think he was fortunate to make such resistance without getting in big trouble, since we were of a small activity stationed in a remote inconvenient area with only 2 officers.

At the time of surrender, August 15th 1945, Mr. Itani and I were still a student OCS in a training period.

There were two clear events where Mr. Itani showed his unselfish love for everyone regardless of danger and hardship, when he voluntarily went into Communist area with me to gather clams for medical use to cure the mass sickness of jaundice at our company, and when he volunteered to make everybody's repatriation papers with me for submission to the American forces at Tsing-tao, China.

During the period at a concentration camp after surrender, Mr. Itani, Mr. Murai (another American born draftee) and I had an opportunity to begin the democratic education in our company, in which Mr. Itani successfully participated by teaching English lessons.

Because of his antimilitaristic ideas and behavior, Mr. Itani did not get along well with the Commanding Officer who, after the surrender, tried to force Mr. Itani to join the Chinese Army (many soldiers were left over in China this way). When Mr. Itani said he was going back to America after repatriation, he threatened us that we may be charged by America for treason.

As above, my memories of Mr. Itani are that he had a strong opposal against the Japanese Militarism, and that he was very faithful to his American ideology and the country of America.

/s/ Noboru Hada

NOBORU HADA, Ass't Dept. Mgr.
Foreign Trade Dept.
Okaya & Co., Ltd.
Shin Marunouchi Bldg.
Marunouchi 1-chome, Tokyo

COPY

Katsu-ura, Katsuura-Cho
Higashimuro-Gun
Wakayama-Ken
January 10, 1959

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written to serve the purpose as Mr. Yoneji Itani's character reference, based on my knowledge as his class teacher and English instructor for 3 consecutive years at Kushimoto Commercial High School, just before the World War II. The facts given below, being so impressive, still remain fresh in my memories as if of recent happenings.

My first knowledge of Mr. Itani, upon assignment as an English instructor and a Class teacher in the Kushimoto Commercial High School, was that he was a student with a reputation not very fair among the Military Trainers and Japanese-history instructors, of course with bad points given by them. Concretely speaking, Mr. Itani's idea and daily conduct were thoroughly of individualism and democracy, a very different idea in Japan those days, and considered as an unwelcome one against Japanese Militarism. His approach to us, when expressing his opinions based on above ideas, was somehow or other disagreeable, he impressed himself as being a rather impudent student. During the early days, I suffered these conducts of his indulgently as some kinds of whims or waywardness of a young man.

Although being of very different ideology superficially imperceptible, but deep in the bottom, from other Japanese students he was a very sociable and cooperative young man and being aged than other students he always took initiative during school-life and had a good reputation among them. Especially in various English lessons he was outstanding and a model among his classmates.

On a later date, when inspecting his school-life diary, I found this student had surrendered a whole rainy holiday to read Stevenson's "Treasure Island" in English, a "must" for most of us English teachers of the then "Middle School". Upon questioning, from curiosity as an English instructor, I found he was very fond of reading literatures written in English, of course very difficult for Japanese high school students. After learning that Mr. Itani was of an American Citizenship, I began to realize the reasons why he possessed such a different ideology from others.

I clearly remember an occasion when Mr. Itani's true self was thoroughly revealed to me, just before his graduation, when the school planned a long distance march for some military celebration. Mr. Itani, as one of the top grade student, was ordered a flag-carrier's position on which he strongly opposed, with the reasons that he did not like the post assigned on the occasion. I personally confronted embarrassment and hardship, and after all efforts, was compelled to have him changed to the Medical and Rescue Unit (Red Cross Team), a unit not so popular among the red-blooded students. An opposal or expression of personal ideas to the Military Instructors

To Whom It May Concern, dtd January 10, 1959

and school authorities was a very rare occurrence during those days, and his attitude on this occasion was that of an anti-militarist, whether consciously or unconsciously. Mr. Itani was always the only one I experienced who openly or innocently did so like above in numerous occasions throughout his high school life. Such demeanors as these of his were supposed to be impossible as a student at that time, if rightly minded.

I would like to apply the proverb "As a boy, so the man", in Mr. Itani's case as being very true. His ideology and education based on Democracy, obtained at the United States, remained stable and unaffected, regardless of the nationwide propaganda by the Japanese Militarist. I, personally, as an educator, obtained a valuable conclusion that primary education is indispensable above everything in forming one's character and ideology.

It is my personal opinion that since Mr. Itani was a grown young man of 20-21 years old with a firm belief in his ideas when he graduated the high school, nothing could have changed his ideology to this date. I also believe that others knowing this man of later dates will make the same comments as I have made in my letter. In closing this letter, I will venture to state that I am very fortunate to be acquainted with a man so ambitious, reliable and so faithful.

/s/ Masaichi Nitta

MASAICHI NITTA, Former Instructor,
Kushimoto Commercial High School,
Wakayama Prefecture

S T A T E M E N T

15 March 1959

I took care of Mr. Yoneji Itani at my home, very intimately as one of my family members, from the summer before the break-out of the war through the time of his graduation from the Yokohama College in the autumn of 1943.

Mr. Itani was a man of a bright and cooperative character. He advocated human rights and freedom of individuals to such an extent as few of average Japanese people of those days could afford, and reflected this kind of idea in his daily life.

He was proud of being an American and was in the habit of saying that he would go back to the United States after his graduation.

Since the war broke-out, Mr. Itani extremely disliked to be drafted and bothered his head in every possible effort to avoid it. However, this turned out to be in vain. When he was called up for military service, his sorrow was so great that we could not help taking pity on him. As it was said that engineers of aircraft companies would be exempt from military service in those days, Mr. Itani sought a position in Nakajima Aircraft Company. But his purpose could not be attained, so he went back home even without attending his graduation ceremony.

We have been Pro-Americans from long ago and understand and like the American ways. When pondering over, we understand that this owes much to the influence of Mr. Itani. We lost our house and all possessions at Kirihata-cho, Kanagawa-ku due to the air-raids of 29 May 1945. However, we have led really a free and happy life since the surrender. We believe one of the big reasons for this is that we have cherished the new democracy deep in our bosoms influenced upon us by Mr. Itani.

We, all members of our family, can assure with confidence that Mr. Itani inspired good influence on his surroundings by his splendid character and democratic ideas.

Mrs. Shige Sudo (Signed and Sealed)
No. 2-14, Magane-cho
Minami-ku, Yokohama City

21 March 1959

I certify that the above is the true and correct translation of the original to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Nario Uno
NARIO UNO
50, Minami, Tobashataku,
Toba, Akashi City, Hyogo Pref.

S T A T E M E N T

Regarding: Mr. Yoneji Itani,
Shimizu, Uozumi-cho, Akashi-City

1. We became acquainted with each other in Hayabusa No. 17338 Detachment at Changten, Shantung Province, China in early spring of 1945. Since then we lived together until the time of our repatriation.

2. Since Mr. Itani, Mr. Hada (living in Tokyo at present) and I, Murai were all American-born and were compelled to join the military service due to compulsory enlistment, we were all congenial in the ways of thinking and naturally the topics of our conversation always concentrated on scientific and peace-living matters.

3. For example, we tried, at every possible opportunity, to get at the real state of the war by secretly turning in the broadcasts of the Allied Forces taking advantage of my being a communication specialist.

4. When we were put in concentration camp in the city of Changten, after the termination of the war, waiting for repatriation, we, after consulting together, conducted re-orientation training of our members. In this training, Mr. Itani took charge of an English instructor.

5. Further, during his military service, Mr. Itani evaded general duties of militaristic nature by taking advantage of his being an Engineer's status. And it was noted that he made statements to the Officer in Charge based on his undeflective belief. The above stated are the facts I remember regarding Mr. Yoneji Itani's army life.

Kazuo Murai (Signed and Sealed)
No. 222, Daini Jutaku,
Mukonosono, Amagasaki City

I hereby certify that the above is the true and correct translation of the original to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Nario Uno 22 Mar. 1959

Nario Uno
No. 50, Minami, Toba-shitaku,
Toba, Akashi City
Hyogo Prefecture.

S T A T E M E N T

Regarding: Yoneji Itani
Shimizu, Uozumi-cho, Akashi City

I came to know Mr. Itani in the latter part of March 1945 in No. 167 Maintenance Detachment of Japanese Army which was then organized at Changtien, Shantung Province, North China; and we kept company with each other until repatriation in the latter part of December of the same year.

Since he was assigned to Engineering Branch and I to Finance and Supply, both in non-combatant status, and our offices next door to each other, we enjoyed close association.

(1) From the standpoint of system and spirit of Japanese Army those days, he was not soldierly at all. The commanding officer Capt. Ueno often reprimanded him, calling him a "civilian" (meaning un-soldierly man). But he seemed to be satisfied with such a word, because he was quite disagreeable to Japanese Militarism which repressed individuals.

(2) He was most hated by his commanding Officer, but knowing this, he always openly opposed to him. This resulted from his antipathy against Militarism repressing him and the most undemocratic military life developing before his eyes.

(3) Although most hated by his commanding officer, he was most liked by his companions and subordinates. He had no rank consciousness, and with his impartial idea and attitudes, he always showed sympathy to soldiers of lower rank. He sometimes persuaded me to spare for his subordinates some cigarettes allotted to the commanding officer and visitors.

(4) Upon the termination of the war, we were almost urged to remain on the spot. However, Mr. Itani himself, as well as those others who were appealed by him, were flatly opposed to it. I think that if it were not for this opposition, many more soldiers would have remained there.

(5) In short, he was of a peace-loving and impartial character, and he always kept feeling against and dissatisfied with systems of Japanese Army of those days. There might be such other persons as he, but I think he was the only one among us who were so bold as to make self-expression.

(Mr.) KAZUO DEN (Signed & Sealed)
1075, Komi, Yamada-cho,
Katori-gun, Chiba Pref.

I certify that the above is a true and correct translation of the original to the best of my knowledge.

/s/ Nario Uno 10 May 59
NARIO UNO
Hyogo Pref., No. 50, Minami, Toba, Akashi City

C O P Y

S T A T E M E N T

July 7th 1959

Regarding: Mr. Yoneji Itani,
Kushimoto-cho, Wakayama Prefecture.

1. By compulsory enlistment, I was called up to No. 1 Air Information Regiment (Anti-air Signal Corps) at Iwata-cho, Shizuoka Prefecture, together with Mr. Itani, both as student conscripts, on November 1st 1943. In no more than ten days after then, without even seeing our families, four men namely Mr. Itani, a Mr. Sasaki, a Mr. Otsuka and myself were transferred to No. 1 Air Information Detachment at Wenchun, Muntanchiang Province, Manchuria and were assigned to Company #2.

2. All 16 men concurrently transferred to the above Air Information Detachment had been compulsorily conscripted from their school-life, were opposed to the military ideas. Especially, the anti-militaristic ideas of Mr. Itani was extreme; he showed various resistance by refusing trainings and drills of dawns and nights under pretense of illness.

3. In addition to the foregoing two articles, Mr. Itani, being an Japanese-American, was prejudiced against in many ways by the seniors. Especially, Lance-Corporal Suzuki, a graduate of juvenile airmen's school and an instructor for us four, gave Mr. Itani manual punishments day after day by kicking, assulting or throwing water over him in the cold winter, saying that he would hammer military spirits into him. On account of this Mr. Itani once lost the sense of hearing, and I think he is carrying a mark of the wound on his head.

4. As three of us, Mr. Tani, Mr. Sasaki and myself hated to be of any combat type status, we applied transfer to the Engineering Department, and were transferred to Takeda Company, Tachikawa Air Maintenance Division around the end of April 1944. After receiving aviation engineering training till December of the same year, I parted with Mr. Itani when I was assigned to No. 3 Air Division.

The above statements are the true facts which I correctly remember.

SHIGETAKA FUJIYOSHI (Signed and sealed)
Kita 6-42, Momozono Apartment,
Yawata City, Fukuoka Prefecture.

I certify that the above is a true and correct translation of the original to the best of my knowledge.

/s/ Nario Uno 22 Jul 59
NARIO UNO
No. 50, Minami, Toba
Akashi City, Hyogo Prefecture.

STATEMENT REGARDING MR. ITANI

19 January 1959

Mr. Yoneji Itani has been a bosom friend of mine since we both entered the Yokohama College (present Kanagawa University) in April 1941. He was distinguished in our class for his bright character and democratic behavior in deference to liberty of individuals.

Being privately-established, our college was restrained little by the government during the wartime as well as pre-war days, and consequently, we had more lessons in English than other colleges. As he was fluent in English, he played a leading part in our class, assisting and acting for professors. I remember that his aspiration at the time of his entrance into our college was to go back to the United States and study at the University of California.

Due to the break-out of World War II, our graduation was quickened by six (6) monthes. Many of his classmates volunteered for Army or Navy, but he was one of the few students who did not care for military services. However, he was called up for military service against his will. As a mean of evasion from conscription, he applied to the college for admission to apply for entry to a university of higher grade, and when disapproved, he had a big quarrel with the college official.

After then, I had to receive his diploma in his place because he stated as being sick and went back to his home town even without taking the final tests of College Military drills such as target shooting.

Approximately two monthes after his graduation in the fall of 1943, he was drafted as a recruit. I went to see him off in front of the barrack gate at Iwata-cho, Shizuoka Prefecture. He once went to the front of the barrack gate, but came back saying that he would enjoy his freedom as much as possible until the last moment. Then, we went to another town to entertain ourselves for several hours, and he entered the barracks just in time.

In the Spring of 1944, he was, at the rank of a private, transferred from Manchuria to Tachikawa, Tokyo in order to take training of rear-services for aircraft maintenance engineering. I went to see him one in a while and heard about corporal punishments he received everyday.

In order to avoid strict military censorship, I relayed the correspondences and parcels between his parents and himself using my lodging-house at Fuchinobe-cho, Koza-gun, Kanagawa Prefecture (I was then a student of Tokyo Technical University) as a relay point, although we knew that this was a dangerous act. It is because he kept Americanized ideology even after he entered the military service and his ideology reflected in his letter had a great probability of falling into the clutches of the censor.

Statement Regarding Mr. Itani, dtd 19 January 1959

When he was going to be dispatched to China around the end of 1944 or in January 1945, he wished to see his parents by all means, so I acted as the middle man to realize his wish.

The above is the facts I clearly remember about Mr. Yoneji Itani of wartime and pre-war days.

Mr. Shinichi Inoue (Signed and Sealed)
#4, 2-chome, Hatahara-dori,
Nada-ku, Kobe City

C E R T I F I C A T E

26 January 1959

I hereby certify that the above is the true and correct translation of the original to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Nario Uno

Nario Uno
50 Minami, Tobashataku,
Akashi City, Hyogo Prefecture

C O P Y

TACHIKAWA AIR PROCUREMENT OFFICE
NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
APO 323

29 September 1958

Character Reference

To Whom It May Concern:

I, the undersigned, have known Mr. Fred Y. Itani, since 1 June 1956 to the present time. Our personal contacts encompassed both social activities and performance of official duties. During this time Mr. Itani was employed by the U.S. Air Force in the Industrial Property Division at Kobe, Air Procurement Office of which I was employed in the Quality Control Division, from 1 June 1956 to January 1958 Mr. Itani and myself worked very closely together on matters concerning both Divisions and the cooperation and courtesy displayed by Mr. Itani was outstanding.

During social activities Mr. Itani always exercised a high degree of sobriety and at all times his character and conduct have been above reproach. His official duties were performed in such a manner that I have heard others remark that they were envious.

I believe if Mr. Itani is redeemed his previous American Citizenship he will indeed be an asset to our country, it is with pleasure therefore to recommend Mr. Fred Y. Itani for American Citizenship.

/s/ Ralph D. Claxton
RALPH D. CLAXTON
Chief, Quality Control Division

HEADQUARTERS
NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
DIRECTORATE OF PROCUREMENT & PRODUCTION
CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
APO 323, San Francisco, California

28 September 1958

CHARACTER REFERENCE

TO: Whom it may concern:

1. Mr. Fred Y. Itani has been known to this writer for the past two (2) years, during which time Mr. Itani served as the Assistant to the USAF Property Administrator at the Kawasaki Kobe Aircraft Co. Ltd. Contract Facility. His duties and responsibilities were of a responsible nature requiring intelligence and ability, both of which he is considered to have amply and satisfactorily provided.

2. On the personal side, it may be said of Mr. Itani that in his dealings with the undersigned he displayed a complimentary degree of co-operation and integrity. He was also resourceful and productive, leaving little to be desired.

3. He is herewith recommended as a person very likely to prove an asset to an organization interested in his services.

/s/ H. G. Lipson
H.G. LIPSON, DAFC
Readj. & Ind. Prop. Br.
Industrial Property Officer

KOBE AIR PROCUREMENT OFFICE
JAPAN AIR PROCUREMENT DISTRICT
HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
APO 323
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

10 March 1958

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

TO: Mr. Yoneji Itani, JN
Kobe Air Procurement Office

1. The purpose of this letter is to commend you officially and to thank you personally on the very important part you played in this organization while I was both the Officer-in-Charge and Administrative Contracting Officer.

2. As you well remember, there were many times that the scope of your work and devotion to duty extended well beyond what was required and expected of you. This type of devotion to duty was one of the most outstanding example of doing anything to get the job done I have ever experienced.

3. It is therefore a very great pleasure to congratulate you and to commend you on your extraordinary efforts to a smooth working organization.

4. A copy of this letter of commendation is being forwarded to your official personnel folder in hopes that it may assist you in either some future employment or attempts to gain your American citizenship.

/s/ Alexis M. Neel, Capt.
ALEXIS M. NEEL
Capt., USAF
Officer-in-Charge

cc: CCPO, Attn: Mr. Tony Takahashi
Hq NAMAP, APO 323

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
TACHIKAWA AIR PROCUREMENT OFFICE
APO 323, San Francisco, California

20 March 1959

PNPCT-Q

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The following information is submitted as a reference in regard to reinstatement of United States of America citizenship to Mr. Fred Y. Itani.

I have known Mr. Itani for approximately 2 years as an associate and fellow employee, working for the U.S. Air Force at the Kawasaki Aircraft Company, Akashi, Japan. His work performance for the U.S. Air Force was excellent and for the best interest of the U.S. Government.

Mr. Itani showed due respect and regard toward the U.S. Government on and off the job. No Deragatory remarks or actions were made or insinuated at any time by Mr. Itani in the presence of the undersigned.

It is the opinion of the undersigned that Mr. Itani by his actions as observed by me during own association in the past 24 months (Apr 57 thru Mar 59) has earned his right to be considered for reinstatement as a U.S. Citizen.

/s/ Joseph J. Munson
JOSEPH J. MUNSON, DAFC
Chief, Quality Control Division

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
APO 323
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

5 January 1959

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

1. I have known Mr. Fred Y. Itani for the past 18 months, during which time Mr. Itani has served as the Assistant to the USAF Industrial Property Administrator at the Kawasaki-Kobe Aircraft Co., Ltd., contract facility. His duties require the constant application of perseverance, honesty, quickness of perception and mature business judgment.
2. Mr. Itani has impressed me during this period as a man of unquestioned integrity. He is quiet, respected and loyal and is held in high esteem and trust by both his fellow workers and by his superiors. His character, ability and intelligence would be an asset to any organization.
3. It is my personal opinion that if Mr. Itani is again granted American Citizenship, he will prove to be worthy of this wonderful privilege.

/s/ Austin B. Castellano
AUSTIN B. CASTELLANO, AO-587667
MAJOR, USAF
Chief, Contract Administration Div.
Hq. NAMAP.

C O P Y

NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE AIR FORCE PLANT REPRESENTATIVE
KAWASAKI AIRCRAFT COMPANY, LTD.
APO 317

29 May 1957

PNRAI

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: Mr. Fred Y. Itani
Special Consultant to AFPA
c/o Office of the Air Force Plant Representative
Kawasaki Aircraft Co., Ltd. Kobe Division
APO 317

1. You have served with this activity from 1 June 1956 to date, performing the duties of assistant to the Air Force Property Administrator for Industrial Property Account AFH 1880 and as such, assisted in the many responsibilities related thereto.
2. In the performance of such duties you have been faithful, hard-working, loyal, and have obtained superior results.
3. Your superior performance of duty is worthy of the highest praise and reflects great credit upon yourself and the Japanese people as a whole. I should be very happy to have you work for me at any time or place.

/s/ Nile Hale
NILE HALE, AW-2111800
CWO, W-3, USAF
Property Administrator

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
KOBE AIR PROCUREMENT OFFICE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
APO 323, San Francisco, California

5 May 1959

PNFKI

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

TO: Mr. Yoneji F. Itani

With this letter, it is my hope, that I can express in words my appreciation to you for a job well done.

As my assistant since May 1958 to the present, you have displayed a superior knowledge of the job to be performed, loyalty to your supervisor, this organization and the U.S. Air Force, initiative, interest and resourcefulness in carrying out your assigned duties, and the ability to obtain accurate information in problem areas, and initiate or recommend actions necessary to resolve such problems. Further, I have observed that you have always been punctual, faithful in attendance, sober, and that you work well with your fellow employees.

I am pleased that you have been able to advance yourself by transferring to the Quality Control Division of this organization since I feel that such advancement is deserved. My only regret is that I feel it will be difficult to find a suitable replacement to fill your position in this office.

I am pleased that you have been able to advance yourself by transferring to the Quality Control Division of this organization since I feel that such advancement is deserved. My only regret is that I feel it will be difficult to find a suitable replacement to fill your position in this office.

I wish you luck in your future endeavors.

/s/ Robert R. Pavelka
ROBERT R. PAVELKA
DAFC
Chief, Ind. Prop. Div.

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
NORTHERN AIR MATERIEL AREA, PACIFIC
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
APO 323
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Please address reply
to attention of

2 October 1958

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have known Mr. Itani for the past approximately 18 months. For the first six months, my association with Mr. Itani was of his supervisor in the Industrial Property Division at the Kawasaki Aircraft Company, Kobe Air Procurement Office where Mr. Itani and I were both employed by the United States Air Force. Since that time I have had many business and social contacts with Mr. Itani.

I have had ample opportunity to observe his work habits and attitudes. During my entire association with him, he impressed me as a man of sincerity, loyalty, unquestionable integrity and a determination to perform to the utmost of his capabilities in the position to which he was assigned. Socially, I found him to be a man of definite sobriety and good moral habits. In his dealings with others, he is kind, courteous, considerate, extremely tolerant displaying at all times a keen sense of fairness and justice.

I, unqualifiedly recommend Mr. Itani for any position where the above characteristics are deemed essential.

/s/ William P. Tierney
WILLIAM P. TIERNEY
Chief, Cost Analysis Branch
Procurement Division
Directorate of Procurement
and Production

C O P Y

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Resident Office
Auditor General
Comptroller, USAF
Showa Acft Ind. Co., Ltd.
APO 323

23 December 1958

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

1. In my capacity as Resident Auditor I have had numerous business and social relations with Mr. Fred Itani, Assistant to the Property Administrator, Kobe Air Procurement Office. In May of 1957 I assumed the duties of Resident Auditor at Kawasaki Aircraft Co., Ltd., Akashi, Japan and at that time Mr. Itani was acting in the same capacity as he is to date.

2. Mr. Itani has at all times shown an intense interest and loyalty to the US Air Force in his capacity as Assistant to the Property Administrator. In this capacity he has been partially responsible for the safeguarding of Government Property in the hands of the Contractor. Mr. Itani has shown by his actions that his integrity is beyond reproach and that his loyalty to the U.S. Government is beyond question. He is industrious, and shows a high degree of initiative and capability in his job. I have had the opportunity to attend many social functions with Mr. Itani and have always found him to be conservative yet an active participant.

3. I do not hesitate to highly indorse Mr. Itani's request for reinstatement of his United States citizenship. I believe that he will be a very able American citizen. If the occasion arose I would be more than happy to continue our relationship in the United States. Mr. Itani would be an asset to any organization.

/s/ Wallace C. Lohse
WALLACE C. LOHSE
Captain, USAF
Resident Auditor
APO 323, San Francisco, Calif.
Showa Acft Ind. Co., Ltd.
Far Eastern District, Auditor General

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
NORTHERN AIR MATERIAL AREA, PACIFIC
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
APO 323, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

4 May 1959

To Whom It May Concern:

I first became acquainted with Mr. Fred Itani in April, 1958. Since then he has been employed continuously by the United States Air Force as Assistant Industrial Property Administrator, Kawasaki Aircraft Company Ltd., Akashi, Japan. In my assignment as Chief, Industrial Property, Japan Air Procurement District from April 1958 to August 1958, Mr. Itani worked directly under my supervision. Thereafter and to the present, I have been the Chief, Readjustment & Industrial Property, Directorate of Procurement & Production, Northern Air Material Area, Pacific, performing staff surveillance over Mr. Itani's area of operations. This has permitted me to associate extensively with Mr. Itani in business matters, and socially to a limited degree.

When I first met Mr. Itani in April, 1958, he was serving as an Acting Industrial Property Administrator. He acted in this capacity until May 1958, at which time an Industrial Property Administrator was assigned permanently. It is my understanding that he had functioned as an Industrial Property Administrator since June 1957 because of the shortage of personnel. Although in this position he was assuming burdens and responsibilities beyond those of an assistant, he did this without complaint. As Acting Industrial Property Administrator, he was the person responsible primarily for safeguarding the interests of the United States Government in the administration of government property valued at approximately \$18,000,000 in custody of private contractors. Mr. Itani was accomplishing this without the assistance of other qualified persons, and in spite of the many handicaps, he was performing satisfactorily. In fact, much of the industrial property program established by Mr. Itani as the Acting Industrial Property Administrator is currently in use.

While observing Mr. Itani, I have noted the manner in which he has accomplished his fairly tasks and the assistance he has rendered to others in their personal matters. He has been congenial and cooperative. His work habits are aggressive but applied tactfully. I have found him to be absolutely reliable. He displays high moral standards and no cause exists to doubt his integrity. In accomplishing his official duties, Mr. Itani has been in contact constantly with Japanese Nationals. His diplomacy in transacting business with these people has unquestionably contributed much to the pleasant relations existing between personnel of the Kawasaki Aircraft Company Ltd., and the United States Air Force. It is my opinion that Mr. Itani is a gentleman, and I welcome a business or social relationship with him at any time.

I believe that Mr. Itani realizes fully that it is a privilege and an honor to be a citizen of the United States. Based upon my knowledge of his character and abilities, I indorse his request for reinstatement of his citizenship without hesitation.

/s/ Ronald W. Heimick
RONALD W. HEIMICK, AO1304386
Major USAF
Directorate of Procurement &
Production.